

Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

133:32

Chapman announces 2010 retirement

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP and local reports) — Kosciusko native Morris H. Chapman has announced his plans to retire as president and chief executive officer of the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) Executive Committee effective September 30, 2010, marking the second Mississippi Baptist in four days to step down from a high-profile Southern Baptist leadership post.

Jerry Rankin, president of the International Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention who was raised in Tupelo and Clinton, announced September 16 that he will retire in July 2010.

Chapman, 68, will have led the Executive Committee 18 years when he retires. He announced his retirement in a letter to Executive Committee members on the opening day of their September 20-21 meeting in Nashville, writing that after giving "serious and prayerful thought to my retirement date" in recent years, "the time has come."

Clarence Cooper, pastor of Brandon Church, Brandon, and a SBC Executive Committee member since 2004, was selected by Randall James, Executive Committee chairman, to serve on the seven-member search committee to replace Chapman.

Chapman was born in Kosciusko and moved to Laurel at the age of five. He was saved at the age of seven at First Church, Laurel, and baptized by Pastor James W. Parrish. Chapman's family moved to Tupelo and then back to Kosciusko, where he attended First Church and graduated high school.

He was called to the ministry at the age of 12 at a Royal Ambassador camp at Camp Garaywa (now Garaywa Camp and Conference Center) in Clinton. His call to the preaching ministry occurred in the summer of 1962 while serving as a youth director at a church in Laurel.

During his freshman year at Baptist-affiliated Mississippi College in Clinton, Chapman served as minister of music and youth at Colonial Heights Church in Jackson.

He married his college sweetheart Sarah Jo (Jodi) Francis of Clarksville, Tn., the summer he graduated from Mississippi College. They moved to Borger, Texas, where he served as youth director and was licensed to the ministry at First Church while preparing to enter Southwestern Seminary in Ft. Worth.

He graduated from Southwestern Seminary with master of divinity ('68) and doctor of divinity ('75) degrees. His first pastorate was at First Church in Rogers, Texas. Chapman was pastor of First Church in Wichita Falls, Texas, when he was called to lead the SBC Executive Committee.

"The individuals who most influenced my life as a boy in Kosciusko were Preston Dew and Grady Simmons, Sunday School teachers; Charles Rich and Ben Scarborough, ministers of music; my typing teacher, Inez Gowan; and the school principal, Tom Mills.

"My best buddies were Pat Vanderford, Drew Chandler, Jack Dew, and Hillory Wright. We all were members of First Baptist, Kosciusko, and have stayed in



RETIRING — Kosciusko native Morris H. Chapman tells the Southern Baptist Convention's Executive Committee September 20 in Nashville that he plans to retire from the positions of Executive Committee president and chief executive officer in September 2010. (BP photo)

touch over the years. Pat and Drew became leaders in the church," Chapman, a former two-term president of the Southern Baptist Convention, told The Baptist Record.

"In college, the one person who influenced me the most was Doc Quick. As he has to so many students and former students, he has been a lifelong friend. Sam Mason, my pastor at Colonial Heights Baptist Church, was also very influential during my college years," he recalled.

"No matter where I have lived, I always thank the Lord for the privilege of growing up in Mississippi among godly people who taught me how to love the Lord Jesus Christ and His Word. I did not pastor in the state of Mississippi. I would have been honored to do so, but I believe I followed God's Will for my life's journey and He never led me back home to Mississippi," Chapman said.

"The imprint of Mississippi Baptists on my life has been indelible. For the rest of my life I will continue to give thanks to the Lord for the wonderful people who were a part of my Mississippi experiences as a boy and college student. Due to God's grace and their witness, my life's journey has been fulfilling.

"God has blessed my efforts to live for Him. Those who modeled a genuine Christian life in my presence during those years long ago have had a profound affect on my life. They taught me through God's Word and their lives to know the joy of the Lord and to remain steadfast even in tough times."

Chapman noted in his letter of retirement, "I reserve my greatest thanks to God. His grace has been sufficient and He has supplied all my need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus" (Phil. 4:19).

Every direction I have led and decision I have made, the uppermost question in my mind has been, 'What is in the best interest of the entire Southern Baptist Convention and its Executive Committee?'

"My prayer is that God will bless and lead the Executive Committee in its every deliberation and decision in the coming months and years. I pledge my prayers and encouragement to you and to the one who shall succeed me."

To members of the Executive Committee, Chapman wrote, "Thank you from the depths of my heart...for working with me, encouraging me, teaching me, advising me, and honoring my leadership. No man could be more blessed than to conclude his ministry among Southern Baptists as president and chief executive officer of the Executive Committee and treasurer of the Southern Baptist Convention. Had I not lived it, I would not have believed it to be possible."

Chapman expressed thanks to his wife Jodi, a nurse, "grateful that God allowed us to share this journey together... These 46 years of marriage she has loved me, cheered me on as my biggest fan, sacrificed some of her own dreams in order to stay home with our children and traveled with me extensively, advised me from a wealth of biblical and medical knowledge, helped me never to lose sight of the practical aspects of life, and continues to make progress in reaching her goal of making me a real person."

The Chapmans have a son, Chris; a daughter, Stephanie; and eight grandchildren. They plan to remain in Nashville after retirement.

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PRESCHOOL CARE

Preschool care will be available for
children ages birth through five years,
by pre-registration with First Church,
Jackson. Preschool care will be available
during the Mississippi Baptist Pastors'
Conference and the Mississippi Baptist
Convention, from noon on October 26
through the final session of the convention
on October 28. Call Michelle
Sansing, childcare coordinator, at (601)
949-1997, to pre-register. All children
must be pre-registered by October 19.

The preschool departments are
located on the street level off North
State Street. Following are the procedures:

1. Pre-register, giving name and age of
each child, the parent, and the
church.
 2. Pick up a security card for each child
on arrival.
 3. Be sure all belongings are labeled.
 4. For infants, leave a time schedule for
feeding.
 5. Leave the children no earlier than 15
minutes before the beginning of a
session and pick them up no later
than 15 minutes after the close of the
session.
- Children may remain in the
preschool area during the Convention
lunch break on October 27, if parents
provide a sack lunch.

MBCB Annual Meeting Schedule

8:30	Sounding of the Gavel	Mickey Dalrymple
	Congregational Praise and Worship	Slater Murphy
	Scripture Reading: Romans 12:1-9	Eddie Bryant
	Prayer	David Eldridge
8:45	Organization of the Convention	Mickey Dalrymple
	Recognition and Seating of Messengers	
	Committee on Order of Business Report	L. Lavon Gray
	Recognition of Tellers & Credentials Committees	Mickey Dalrymple
	Welcome from FBC, Jackson	Stan Buckley
8:55	Congregational Praise and Worship	Slater Murphy
9:00	International Mission Board Emphasis	Jerry Rankin
9:20	Report of Committee on Committees	Rex Yancey
9:25	Presentation of Resolutions	
9:30	Election of the President	Mickey Dalrymple
9:40	Concert of Praise	Youth Choir and Adult Praise Band
9:45	Bible Treasures	Bobby Welch
10:40	Convention Board Report	J. Steve Jackson
10:50	Congregational Praise and Worship	Slater Murphy
10:55	Concert of Praise	Youth Choir and Adult Praise Band
11:05	President's Address	Mickey Dalrymple
11:35	Benediction	Gene Neal

1:30	Concert of Praise	Mississippi Singing Churchmen
1:45	Sounding of the Gavel	David Hamilton
	Congregational Praise and Worship	Jim Pinkston
	Scripture Reading: John 20:19-23	Dan Woodard
	Prayer	Tony Merida
1:55	Processional of Flags	
2:00	Bible Treasures	Bobby Welch
2:25	Concert of Praise	Mississippi Singing Churchmen
2:35	Business Session	Mickey Dalrymple
	Presentation of 2010 Budget	Weldon Aultman
	Results of Election of President	Mickey Dalrymple
	Election of Convention Officers	
	Presentation of Resolutions	
	Miscellaneous Business	
3:00	Missions Mobilization	Ken Rhodes
3:15	Music Feature	Praise Team/Ensemble
3:20	Business Session	Mickey Dalrymple
	Election of Convention Officers	
	Miscellaneous Business	
3:35	Prayer-IMB Mississippi Missionaries	Kay Cassibry
3:45	Congregational Praise and Worship	Jim Pinkston
3:50	Choral Praise	Sanctuary Choir
4:00	Convention Sermon	Randy Bostick
4:30	Benediction	David Sartin

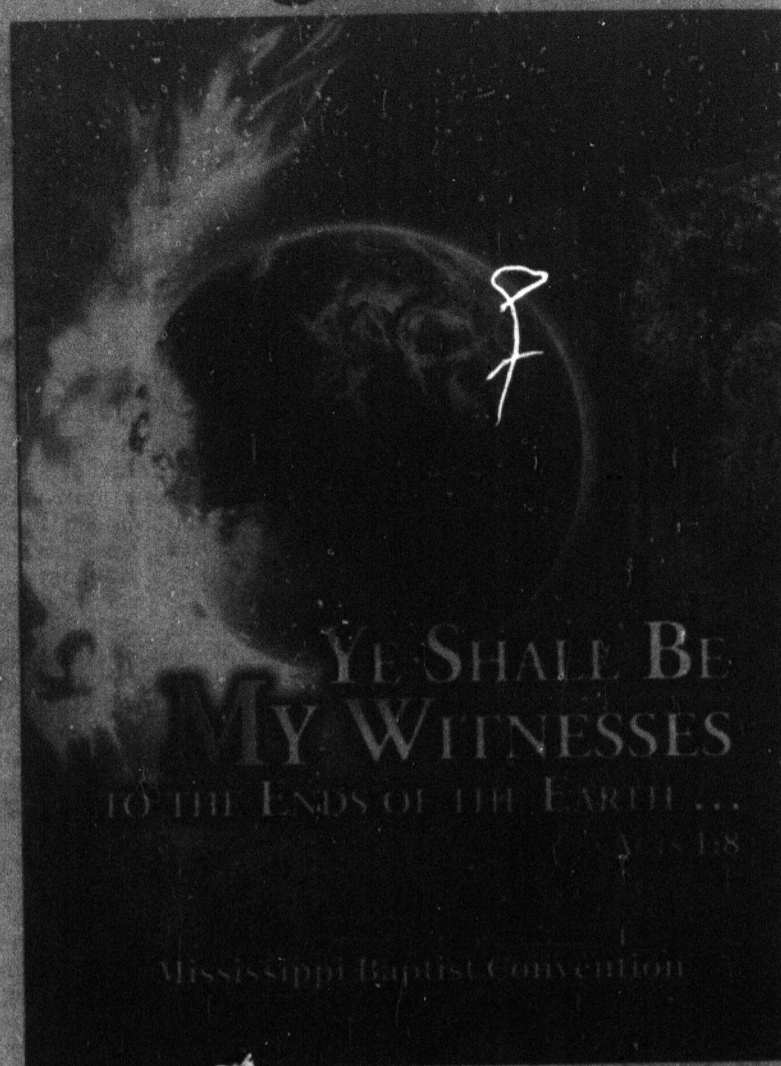
6:30	Music Feature	Mississippi Baptist Symphony Orchestra
6:40	Sounding of Gavel	Mickey Dalrymple
	Final Presentation of Resolutions	
	Congregational Praise and Worship	Graham Smith
	Scripture Reading: Matthew 28:16-20	W. Tyler Pigott, Jr.
	Prayer	Stan Buckley
6:55	Choral Praise	Combined Choirs & MBSO
7:05	Congregational Praise and Worship	Graham Smith
7:10	Choral Praise	Mark Harris
7:20	Mississippi Baptist Convention Board Emphasis	Jim Futral
8:00	Benediction	Keith Warden

Hotel/Motel Accommodations for 2009 Miss. Baptist Convention

Hotel/Motel Rates effective October 26 - 28, 2009
When you ask for reservations be sure to
tell them you are attending the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

Best Western Executive Inn	\$79.95 Single or Double per night plus tax (11%)
601-969-6555 725 Larson Street, 155 High Street, Exit 96-B	
Edison Walthall	\$90.00 Single or Double per night plus tax (11%)
601-948-6161 225 E. Capitol Street, 155 Pearl Street, Exit 96-A	
Holiday Inn Express	\$29.00 Single or Double per night plus tax (11%)
601-948-4466 310 Greymont Avenue, 155 High Street, Exit 96-B	
Regency Hotel & Convention Center	\$72.00 Single or Double per night plus tax (11%)
601-969-2141 400 Greymont Avenue, 155 High Street, Exit 96-B	

Quality Inn & Suites	\$69.99 Single or Double per night plus tax (11%)
601-969-2230 400 Greymont Avenue, 155 High Street, Exit 96-B	
Hampton Inn	\$99.00 Single or Double per night plus tax (11%)
601-352-1700 320 Greymont Avenue, 155 High Street, Exit 96-B	
Cabot Lodge Millsaps	\$94.00 Single or Double per night plus tax (11%)
601-948-6650 2375 North State Street	
Marriot Jackson	\$99.00 Single or Double per night plus tax (11%)
601-969-5100 200 Amite Street	
Comfort Inn, Canton	\$62.99 Single or Double per night plus tax (11%)
601-859-7575 145 Soldier Colony Rd., I-55 Exit 119	



8:30	Sounding of the Gavel	Rickey Blythe
	Congregational Praise and Worship	Mark Harris
	Scripture Reading: Acts 1:4-11	John Temple
	Prayer	Jon Stubblefield
8:45	Mississippi Baptist Foundation Report	Daniel Hall
8:50	Memorial Service	Bruce Cappleman
8:55	Introduction of College Presidents	Mickey Dalrymple
9:00	Blue Mountain College Report	Dr. Bettye R. Coward
9:10	Music Feature	Mark Harris
9:20	Bible Treasures	Bobby Welch
9:45	Business Session	Mickey Dalrymple
	Adoption of 2010 Budget	Weldon Aultman
	Committee on Nominations Report	Joe Pate
	Time, Place & Preacher Committee Report	Bert Harper
	Resolutions Committee Report	Clarence Cooper
	Miscellaneous Business	Mickey Dalrymple
10:10	Baptist Children's Village Report	Rory Lee
10:20	Music Feature	Mark Harris
10:30	Message	Fred Luter, Jr.
11:05	Closing Remarks	Jim Futral
11:15	Benediction	Russell Mord

Parents play big role in youth ministries

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — Ministry to parents, not just to youth, took center stage during the 2009 National Youth Workers Conference sponsored by LifeWay Christian Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention in Nashville.

"How do we incorporate families into our ministries?" asked Jeff Pratt during the opening night of the Sept. 14-16 conference. Pratt, student minister at First Church in Nashville, also works as LifeWay's director of student ministry training.

It was a question the 400-plus attendees pondered throughout the conference at LifeWay's home office in Nashville, Tenn., which featured award-winning Christian recording artists and experienced pastors and youth ministers from around the country.

On the conference's opening night, singer Steven Curtis Chapman took the stage with his two sons Caleb and Will. Chapman told the audience he hopes his life can be viewed as a "case study" for families working as units in ministry. As a Christian musician, he said, he has been able to involve his family in his work, whether performing with his sons or drawing inspiration for his songs from life with his wife and kids.

LifeWay's student ministry publishing area, said the idea of involving parents in their kids' spiritual development has been overlooked in recent years. "Youth ministry went through a stage when it was viewed as a one-stop resource for making kids look like Jesus," Bunn said. "As a result, parents abdicated their role and youth ministers sort of usurped that role."

Bunn pointed to Deuteronomy 6, which calls parents to make permanent marks on their children's lives. Parents, he said, are an invaluable facet of students developing into godly adults. "We are seeing a renaissance of the idea that God says parents should be the primary spiritual developers of their kids."

The first step in reintroducing (or introducing) this idea is getting to know parents, Bunn advised the youth workers. "Find out who they are and what they are going through," he said. "Relationships with the parents will allow you to be transparent with them so



FAMILY AFFAIR — Christian singer Steven Curtis Chapman (center) performs with his sons Will (left) and Caleb on the September 14 opening night of the National Youth Workers Conference at LifeWay Christian Resources in Nashville. (BP photo)

that you can, at some point, share the truth of Deuteronomy 6 with them."

This shift also requires youth ministers to think about how their youth groups can be part of the larger church body. "This is not about adding events to the church calendar," said Sherry Spillman, a student ministry specialist at LifeWay, during a breakout session. "Think outside of the box to create a holistic, unified church."

Two-time attendee Andy Carr acknowledged the need to do a better job ministering to parents.

"I'm fortunate to have parents who want to be involved," said Carr, who serves as associate pastor and minister to students at Sand Ridge Church in Lexington, Tenn. "We need to help them even better understand their kids with things like culture education. Parents need to know what this youth culture looks like."

Conference speakers emphasized, however, that involving parents in their students' spiritual development does not mean youth ministers are irrelevant in that process.

"It's your job to make mom and dad the hero," Pratt said

during an afternoon panel discussion. "My goal as a student minister is that my students go to mom and dad when they have a theological question."

He added that he is happy to help parents answer those questions should they request his assistance.

Youth ministers are the "resident experts" when it comes to student ministry, Pratt said. They must focus on ministering to, not functioning as social directors for, the students they've been given.

"Seeds planted [in my life] by people faithful in youth ministry helped us survive this last 14 months," Chapman said, referring to his five-year-old daughter Maria, who "went to heaven" in 2008. She was accidentally struck in the driveway of their home by a vehicle being driven by one of her older brothers.

"I want to encourage you and remind you that what you're doing is incredibly important."

Editor's note: For more information about student ministry resources and events, visit LifeWay.com/students.

ION recognized

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — The International Orality Network (ION), of which the International Mission Board (IMB) is a sponsor, received The Mission Exchange's Innovation in Mission Award at a September 22 conference in St. Louis. The Mission Exchange, composed of 100 evangelical missions-sending organizations that support approximately 20,000 missionaries, praised the International Orality Network for its innovative approach to missions, breakthrough thinking, practical training and effective resources. Beginning this year, The Mission Exchange will recognize an organization annually that excels in one of four areas: excellence, partnership, finishing well and innovation. This year's focus is innovation. The International Orality Network is a group of ministries that makes the Gospel available for oral learners in culturally appropriate ways in order to facilitate church-planting movements. ION's executive director, Avery Willis, formerly IMB's senior vice president for overseas operations, accepted the award on behalf of the orality network during The Mission Exchange's Metrics in Missions conference. Orality is the reliance on the spoken word as a primary means of communication. Since 60% of the world's population learns orally, ION and its sponsor organizations believe that to fulfill the Great Commission the Gospel must be available to an oral audience. The orality movement uses methods conducive to the learning style of oral learners in discipleship, evangelism, leadership training and church planting. These methods include storytelling, poems, chants, songs, riddles, and proverbs. "Other people are recognizing that this approach, that we started assessing seriously 20 years ago, is one that now is recognized widely as an innovation in missions that's really important," said Grant Lovejoy, IMB director of orality strategy. "As far as IMB is concerned, I think it is also an affirmation because we have really helped lead the way in this and some of our field personnel and staff have had a real key role in identifying orality as a factor in our effectiveness," Lovejoy added. For more information on IMB's orality strategy, go to www.OralityStrategies.org and www.CBStorying.org.

Looking back

10 years ago

Billy Graham speaks to capacity crowds at Memorial Church in the midst of Harvard Yard at Harvard University on Sept. 26-27, preaching what he called "an old-fashioned Southern Baptist sermon."

20 years ago

Southern Baptist Convention president Jerry Vines urges executive committee members to settle the Baptist Joint Committee (BJC) issue "in a clear-cut, uncomplicated way." Earlier, the committee had acted to cut off financial support and create a new Religious Liberty Commission.

30 years ago

New Orleans Seminary holds formal dedication service for its new 1700-seat chapel on Sept. 13, with Ramsey Pollard, SBC president and pastor of Broadway Church, Knoxville, Tenn., delivering the dedicatory address.



MISSISSIPPI
BAPTISTS

THE SECOND FRONT PAGE

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No. 39



**YOU CAN RESPOND
RIGHT NOW!**

Simply share the following prayer with God in your own words:

1. Lord, I admit that I need you. (I have sinned.)
2. I want forgiveness for my sins and freedom from eternal death. (I repent.)
3. I believe Jesus died and rose from the grave to forgive my sins and to restore my relationship with you. (I believe in Jesus.)
4. By faith, I invite Jesus Christ into my life. From this time on, I want to live in a loving relationship with Him. (I receive Christ as my Savior and Lord.)

"But as many as received him, to them he gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in his name." (John 1:12)

If you make a decision for Jesus Christ today, contact a local Baptist church for spiritual guidance.

BIBLIOCIPHER

By Charles Marx, 1932 - 2004
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FYB WEODD LUFYBEBFY,
FYB ZSCLBE ZOJBFY: TGF
FYB LCEJ CZ CGE WCJ
DYOSS DFOAJ ZCE
BMBE.

UDOUY FYUEFN-
AUAB: BUWYF

Clue: L = W

Have fun with cryptography and exercise your Bible knowledge. A King James Version Bible verse has been encoded by letter substitution. The same letter is substituted throughout the puzzle. Solve by trial and error. Answer to last week's puzzle: Mark Four:Eleven

BRAINSTORM

Did you see the recent report that no longer should the term, "brainstorm," be used to describe a group of people getting together to talk about an issue or an idea? The reason for the change is that brainstorming might be offensive to some people who may have experienced a brain injury or have some deficiency. The suggested terminology to be used instead is, "thought showers." I suppose the gathering of folks who would be involved in that would be asked to come to a thought shower experience.

Now I must confess that my first thought when I heard the report was somebody or some group of persons in some thought-showering experience just do not have enough to occupy their brains, whatever their conditions. Who sits around contemplating and considering a word's connotation, denotation, or implication? I mean, if that is all you have to do you really do need a life.

All of the political and social correctness of word usage that has taken place in the last few years is not all bad. It is thought-provoking how we use words that can be offensive that we have just made a part of our vocabulary and they do need rethinking, but now it seems as though we have gotten on the fringe of the absurd. Maybe there is a point to be made. If so, I will try to rethink it and give "thought showers" a break and maybe even use it, but I doubt it.

With additional thought about this matter especially

related to brainstorming, I realized that I have very seldom seen any of these storms produce anything. I have been a part of meetings that were called just to brainstorm an idea and I cannot remember anytime when it appeared to me that lightning struck or there was any thunder or downpour. Sometimes, not always but occasionally, these experiences ended up being opportunities to just gather and share our ignorance. I have even been in church meetings where in some discussion group or maybe at a business meeting an idea will be thrown out and kicked around and a brainstorm was supposed to be taking place. A number of times someone at these meetings would get up and say, "Well, I really don't know anything about this, but..." and then they would give their opinion. Occasionally, I would think and want to say (but wouldn't), "Well, if you don't know anything about it then why are you going to address the issue?" In time, I learned that the reason they would speak about something of which they knew nothing was because of some emotional feeling about the circumstances and because often the discussions would become emotional rather than informational.

I think that we can live without brainstorms, and probably we can even live without thought showers



Directions

Jim Futral, executive director-treasurer
Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

because more often than not creative thinking and innovative approaches do not come because you throw a group of people in a room and say, "Brainstorm on this!" It may happen there, but usually it comes from one or two people who have given deep, serious, thoughtful, and hard consideration to what needs to be done and out of their patient, persistent, provoking, and prodding approach to what needs to be done, some new, exciting, and creative things come forward. Add to that the wonderful, enormous, and miraculous aspect of the very presence of the creative God in human experience and something marvelous may be about to take place.

You see, it was not a brainstorm that came up with the idea of bringing the children of Israel out of Egyptian bondage, across the Red Sea, and through the desert. Rather, it was a meeting of one man

with the great God of Heaven who said, "Here is what I want you to do and the way I want you to accomplish it."

It was not the brainstorming of a choice committee that came up with the idea of rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem, but rather it was born out of the compassionate heart of one man who wanted to see the glorious city of God restored — and God raised up Nehemiah.

It was not a thought shower experience of a select group of people who came up with the idea that revival could come to Nineveh, but rather the call of God to one of His servants, Jonah, who even through his rebellious time would understand he needed to do what God asked him to do: go to Nineveh and see revival, in spite of himself.

For those of us who know the Lord, maybe a better term than brainstorm or thought shower is a God rain, or maybe even a better way to understand it is to call it a God reign. When those moments come in our lives, we surrender to the power and lordship of our great God, and something glorious from heaven can happen in our lives.

The author can be contacted at jfutral@mbcb.org.

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ACKERMAN BAPTIST CHURCH is seeking a fulltime staff position serving as Minister of Youth and Music. Please send resumes to Dr. Wayne McLeod, P.O. Box 834, Ackerman, MS 39735.

BI-VOCATIONAL MINISTER OF STUDENTS for growing youth ministry. Must be God-focused, visionary, motivated. Willing to work into full-time position in near future. Students also welcome to apply. Submit resume to Johns Baptist Church Youth Search, 5413 Highway 18, Brandon, MS 39042.

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THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST FOUNDATION

Fall 2009

"Where There's a Will, There's a Way"

I suppose that almost everyone has heard the expression "Where there's a will, there's a way" on more than one occasion during their lifetime. The statement most frequently is presented as both encouragement and challenge to persevere toward the accomplishment of a goal or the fulfillment of a need.

God, in His infinite wisdom, has granted each of us a special stewardship responsibility in regard to the entirety of life. Thus, our decision-making has an impact and influence both in the present and in the future. One key component of this stewardship focus is the opportunity to manage the possessions entrusted to our care. Although everything ultimately belongs to the Lord (Psalm 24:1), human beings are assigned the privilege to administer these material provisions in a manner that effectively and efficiently accomplishes Kingdom goals and fulfills specific needs.

For the majority of people, the most effective and efficient approach to accomplish personal and Kingdom goals is through a document known as a Last Will and Testament. This edition of Foundation News covers important aspects and benefits of having a valid Will. Remember, "Where there's a Will, there's a way!"

What Can You Accomplish Drafting A Christian Will?



The Foundation Can Help



Daniel Hall
Executive Director
Mississippi Baptist Foundation

Where There's a Will, There's a Way to... Provide for Family

The apostle Paul penned some strong words concerning a Christian's stewardship responsibility with regard to family when he wrote, "If anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially his immediate family, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever" (1 Tim. 5:8). The following article by LaRae Brown appeared in the July 22, 2009 edition of *The Clarion-Ledger* newspaper. Reprinted with permission from *The Clarion-Ledger*, the article highlights the importance of having a Last Will and Testament that is both valid and current.

"McNair, Jackson deaths help make the case"

Your Will, Your Voice

About 20 years ago, Jane Earnest decided she needed a will. She's happy she drafted the will, but the 59-year-old wishes she'd done it in her 20s and 30s.

"Anybody with a child needs to make a will," the mother of three said.

When her mother died three years ago, Earnest was pleased there was no fighting or bickering.

"She had her will, and everything went according to her wishes," Earnest said.

The deaths of Steve McNair - who did not have a will - and Michael Jackson - who had not updated his will in seven years - have brought will discussions to the spotlight for reason most families want to avoid.

Jackson's family reportedly is fighting over details of his will, deciding who will be in charge of his estate and who will raise his children. In the McNair case, his widow, Mechelle, did not include her husband's two other children in the list of heirs filed with a Tennessee court.

Many think wills are just for millionaires or people who have become financially established. But money isn't the deciding factor, said John Shows, a Flowood attorney.

"The criteria is what's going on in your personal life at that particular time," Shows said, explaining that even young couples need wills.

Wills, attorneys say, help avoid court battles and - most importantly - prevent the court from deciding who will raise your children or get your assets.

"A court can't read somebody's mind when they're dead," Shows said.

In Mississippi, if a married person dies without a will, the assets are divided equally among the surviving spouse and children, said Leonard Van Slyke, a Jackson attorney.

"Most people who are married with a



**"A court can't read
somebody's mind when
they're dead."**

John Shows, Flowood attorney

minor child would want to leave everything to the spouse and have the spouse take care of the children," Van Slyke said.

When deciding what goes to children, maturity can be an issue.

"Have you contemplated dumping a couple of million on a 20-year-old?" Van Slyke asked. "That's a very risky proposition. Some are very mature. Some don't mature or a number of years after that."

He has some clients who make their children wait until they are at least 25 before getting control of their inheritance.

And once a will is drafted, it should be updated. Wills should be reviewed frequently and likely will need to be updated every three to five years. The reasons for

updating wills are varied, Van Slyke and Shows said, such as:

- When a new child is born.
- When you inherit something valuable.
- When a spouse dies.
- When you remarry.

Wills should agree with the beneficiaries listed on the life insurance policy or retirement account, Shows said. When the two don't agree, the people listed as the beneficiary on the insurance or retirement account get the money.

The cost of drafting a will is a daunting financial question to some. Attorneys charge by the hour, and Van Slyke said a basic will for a person with few assets may be drafted in three hours or so. More complex wills take longer.

He raises a red flag about free and online will services. Those, he said, may not accurately reflect state laws.

Drafting a will allows a person to make donations. Earnest included a tithe for her church.

As for the 20-somethings who may be deciding if they need a will, Earnest offers a bit of motherly advice: "We expect our children to have other documents (passport, driver's license), and that will is an adult decision."

WHO GETS THE CHILDREN?

It's a question most wouldn't want the court to answer, but attorneys say those with young children should think carefully and may need to ask themselves key questions.

• Are grandparents the best guardians? "Is it really in the best interest of a teenager to have a 75-year-old in charge of them?" Jackson attorney Leonard Van Slyke asked.

• Is it your sister and brother-in-law you want to raise your children or just your sister? Van Slyke suggests just naming your sibling the guardian. If you name a couple, guardianship could become a legal battle if that couple gets divorced.

• What about a special-needs child? Flowood attorney John Shows said you should make plans regarding who will take care of special-needs children, even when they're adults, and consider how well taken care of those children will be.

Where There's a Will, There's a Way to... Offer a Testimony

When planning your Will, it is easy to overlook the one asset that provides true wealth: the Good News of eternal life through faith and trust in Jesus Christ. My guess is that many Christians have a relative or other loved one for whom they have prayed unceasingly for that individual's salvation. Even in death, a Last Will and Testament offers a unique opportunity for the believer to offer a personal testimony and an appeal for a child, grandchild, or friend to accept Jesus Christ as Savior.

A Christian Preamble to your Will can provide an opportunity for you to minister to your family and friends, providing them comfort, assurance, and encouragement during a time of loss. A preamble also provides a strong witness to those who may not have accepted Christ as their personal savior. Please prayerfully consider adding

the sample preamble below to your Will or use it as a guide for adding your own personal statement of faith to your will.

[Preamble]

I, (NAME), a citizen and resident of (CITY), Mississippi, being of sound mind and wishing to dispose of my property in case of my death, do hereby make and ordain this my last Will and Testament, revoking all wills and codicils heretofore made by me.

First, secure in the fact that my eternal salvation was purchased for me through the suffering, death, and shed blood of Jesus Christ my Savior, and that through his resurrection death was conquered, I commit myself to the loving care of the Heavenly Father. I leave

those who survive me with the comfort of knowing that I have died in this faith and have joined my Lord in eternal glory.

Second, I commend my loved ones to rely on God for the guidance and protection, confident that He will continue to provide for them despite my absence from this earth. I encourage them not to rely on the material things and riches of this world, which can provide satisfaction only for a season. Instead, I urge them to place their faith and trust in Jesus Christ alone, who provides both eternal life in Heaven and abundant life on earth.

[Body of Will]

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Where there's a Will, there's a Way to... Leave a Legacy

In a recent edition of *Seminary News* published by the Canadian Southern Baptist Seminary and College in Cochrane, Alberta, Canada, seminary president Rob Blackaby defined one's legacy as both "the imprint that God has caused your life to leave on individuals, groups, and institutions" and "the lasting impression your life and story have had on generations who will follow after you, with the marked desire to serve Christ and seek His Kingdom and His righteousness."

Perhaps the most useful tool for establishing a legacy and extending your Christian influence is a Last Will and Testament. In simple terms, a Will is a legal document that "speaks" for you after the Lord has called you into higher service with Him. Jesus encouraged his followers to leave a Kingdom-focused legacy through laying up treasures in heaven.

Corine Adams Baines captured the essence of this teaching by Jesus both in life and in death. Corine had a concern for people that she shared with her husband Thomas who ministered as a medical doctor. Beyond the means and measure by which Thomas and Corine were able to demonstrate an outward focus on others during their lifetimes, further evidence of the Baines' interest in people and the needs of others came courtesy of Corine's Last Will and Testament.

Through her Will, Corine Baines demonstrated that "where your treasure is, there will be your heart also" (Matthew 6:21). In addition to several specific charitable bequests to medical-related entities, Corine not only provided financial blessings from her estate to the senior adult ministries of several churches in Mississippi and Texas but also to a residential home for senior adults in Mississippi.

Mrs. Baines' love for people extended beyond the local arena, however, as she sought to favor missions through the Mississippi Baptist Foundation. As provided in her Will, the Foundation received the Baines' principal residence along with all of the furnishings and other contents of this home. The proceeds generated from the sale of this gift will be added to the "Thomas A. and Corine A. Baines Memorial Missions Trust" administered by the Foundation. Truly, Corine Baines has left a legacy.

Unfortunately, many people come to the end of their earthly sojourn without a valid Last Will and Testament. Some estimates suggest that 70% of the more than two million Americans who die each year do not have a Will. When

a person dies without a valid Last Will and Testament, emotional distress and unnecessary expense are among the host of painful consequences experienced by loved ones. In addition, personal possessions may be subject to distribution according to impersonal laws and statutes. On the other hand, the establishment of a Will has several advantages...

ADVANTAGES OF A LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT

- Control your lifetime accumulation of personal property by passing these assets to family, friends, charity, and ministry;
- Faithfully carry out your stewardship responsibility to care for your surviving spouse, parents, young children, disadvantaged children, adult children, and/or grandchildren;
- Minimize estate taxes and other final costs;
- Make specific bequests of tangible property and provide for the disposition of the remaining assets after all expenses and bequests have been paid;
- Provide a tangible witness of your faith in Christ and share hope with others through gifts that support your favorite ministries in perpetuity.

As Dr. Blackaby reminds us, the power of a legacy begins with "a heart filled with faith and obedience" and culminates in "a life that arises out of death to ourselves and not from any deed that we have done." Your Last Will and Testament can speak volumes about your life and legacy. Remember, where there's a Will ... to provide for family, to offer a testimony, and to leave a legacy ... there's a way!



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Religious leaders sign Iran letter

WASHINGTON (BP) — Southern Baptist leaders were among nearly 50 religious and conservative leaders who called September 22 for swift action by the U.S. government to prevent Iran from developing nuclear weapons.

In a letter to U.S. President Barack Obama and the U.S. Congress, Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) President Johnny Hunt and Richard Land, president of the Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention in Nashville, were joined by former SBC Presidents Jack Graham and Jim Merritt and others in urging a boycott on arms sales to the militant Islamic regime and economic sanctions on firms that conduct oil-related business with Iran.

"For the world's most dangerous regime to obtain the world's most dangerous weapons is something that neither the United States nor the community of civilized nations can allow," they said in the letter.

In a written commentary, Land said Obama should "ratchet up the pressure on a recalcitrant Iranian regime" by imposing sanctions to block Iran's importation of refined petroleum and by halting the

provision to Tehran of transportation of refined gasoline.

"[T]he window of opportunity for President Obama and Congress to take action is closing fast," said Land, president of the Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission. "Delays will only encourage Iran's recklessness, weaken the resolve of the international community and allow Russia and other oil-starved nations to continue to enable Iran and her terrorist lackeys to become ever more dangerous threats. The clock is ticking, Mr. President."

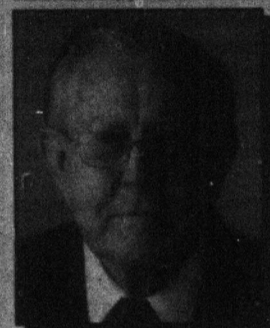
The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has found Iran has the ability to produce "enough low-enriched uranium to compile almost two nuclear weapons if it is enriched to weapons-grade levels," the letter said. Also, IAEA has noted Iran's refusal to answer inquiries about its nuclear program's military aspects.

Iran is one of only eight countries to be classified by the U.S. State Department as "countries of particular concern," a designation reserved for the world's worst violators of religious liberty.

The September 22 letter was sent only four days after the European Centre for Law and Justice urged the United

Nations' human rights office to hold Iran and Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad accountable for recent human rights abuses.

Land and another signer, Nina Shea, director of the Hudson Institute's Center for Religious Freedom, are both members of the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom, a bipartisan nine-member panel that reports to the White House and Congress on the state of religious liberty overseas.



Swinney

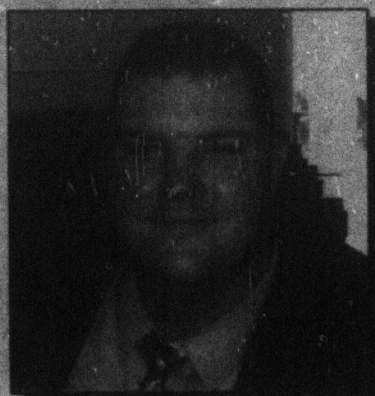
Millard L. Swinney, 89, Olive Branch, died at his home Sept. 11. He was a retired Baptist minister, having pastored churches throughout northern Mississippi, and was serving as chaplain for the Olive Branch Police Department and Parkwood Hospital. He was a WWII infantryman in the U.S. Army who served in the Aleutian Islands and in Europe. He was captured at the Battle of the Bulge and was a P.O.W. from

December-May, 1945, and was a Purple Heart recipient. His funeral was Sept. 15 at First Church, Olive Branch, with James Stewart and P.J. Scott conducting the service. He was preceded in death by his wife, Minnie V. Swinney. He is survived by daughters, Shirley Sappington, Olive Branch, and Betty Duke (Bill) of Oxford; sister Mae Dru Reeves, Selmer, Tenn.; brother Maynard Swinney (Sue) of Tupelo; four grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

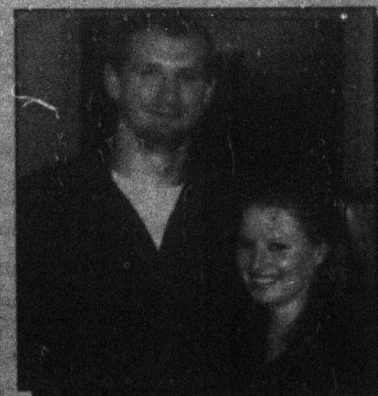
STAFF CHANGES

1. Unity Church, Leakesville, has called Rick Brown as pastor effective Sept. 13.
2. Gore Springs Church, Gore

Springs, has called Joseph Ingram as youth minister and children's director. Shown are Ingram and his wife Elizabeth.



1. Brown



2. The Ingrams

OBITUARIES

REVIVALS AND HOMECOMINGS

1. Beulah Church, Myrtle: Homecoming, Oct. 11; singing, 10 a.m. with Unity Four Quartet; services, 11 a.m.; Ken White, speaker.
2. Monument Drive Church, Tupelo: Homecoming, Oct. 4; worship, 10 a.m., followed by lunch; Kent Grice, speaker; Jerry Dulaney, music; Tim Roaten, pastor.
3. Mt. Pisgah Church, Enid: Revival, Oct. 11; Aubrey Martin, worship; Legacy of Faith, music.
4. Clear Branch Church, Florence: Homecoming, Oct. 11; Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; worship, 10:30 a.m., followed by lunch; Roger Lee, speaker; Ed Meadows, music.
5. Plainway Church, Laurel: Revival, Oct. 4-7; Sun., 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Wayne Dubose, speaker; Bobby Meeks, music. Nonnie Jefcoat, Pastor
6. Mt. Carmel Church, Edinburg: Homecoming, Oct. 11, 10:30 a.m.; Danny Moss, speaker; Keith Fulton, pastor.
7. Cedar View Church, Olive Branch: Revival, Oct. 11-14; Sun., 11 a.m., followed by lunch and 6 p.m.; Alvin Whitehead, speaker.
8. Mt. Zion Church, Florence: 50th anniversary/homecoming, Oct. 3 & 4; Sat., games, historical display, 2 p.m.; fish dinner (\$6) - 5 p.m.; Southern Heritage in concert, 6:30 p.m.; Sun., regular services, 10:45 a.m., followed by covered dish dinner; John Patterson, speaker.
9. Corinth Church, Singleton/Carthage: Homecoming, Oct. 11; services, 10:30 a.m., followed by fellowship meal; Randall Creel, speaker; Iris LeCren, music.
10. Grays Creek Church, Hernando: 139th homecoming, Oct. 4; worship and praise, 10:30 a.m., followed by potluck dinner on the grounds.
11. River Bend Church, Aberdeen: Revival, Oct. 4-7; Sun. (youth night), 9, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Jimmy Porter, speaker; R.L. and Beth Sigrest, music; Roy McHenry, pastor.
12. McAdams Church, Sallis: Homecoming, Oct. 11; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m., followed by covered dish lunch; Guss Shelly, speaker; James E. Young, pastor.
13. Brewer Church, Richton: Homecoming and revival, Oct. 11-14; Sun., 11 a.m., followed by lunch and afternoon service; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Daniel Caldwell, speaker; William Ricks, music; Larry W. Yarber, pastor.

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COLLEGE AND SEMINARY NEWS

1. Jerry Rankin, president of the International Mission Board (IMB) of the Southern Baptist Convention, will be the guest speaker for the 2009-2010 Carey Lecture. The lecture will be on October 19 at 9:30 a.m. in the Smith Auditorium on the Hattiesburg campus of William Carey University.
2. The Leland Speed Library at Mississippi College will hold its annual book bazaar October 16 & 17. The library has collected over 10,000 books, videos, DVDs, CDs, and vinyl records which will be sold at bargain prices, most from 50 cents to \$2. These gently used items will be available in MC's Alumni Hall gym, located on the corner of Monroe and College streets from 12 noon to 6 p.m. on Friday and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday. For more information, contact the Leland Speed Library at (601) 925-3908.
3. New Orleans Seminary will host Preview Weekend for prospective students Oct. 8-10. The event begins on Oct. 8, at 5:15 p.m. and concludes Oct. 10, at noon. The registration deadline is one week before the event. The cost for the weekend is \$25 per person. This fee pays for two nights of accommodations and dinner Thursday night, 3 meals on Friday and breakfast on Saturday morning. Prospective students may register for Preview Weekend by phone at (800) NOBTS-01, ext. 3303, or online at www.nobts.edu/Enlistment/PreviewWeekend.html.

JUST FOR THE RECORD



1. Palmer ordination



2. First Church, Holly Springs



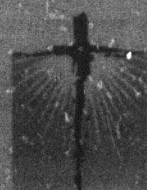
3. Partridge and Bouis



4. Cross Roads Church, Pelahatchie



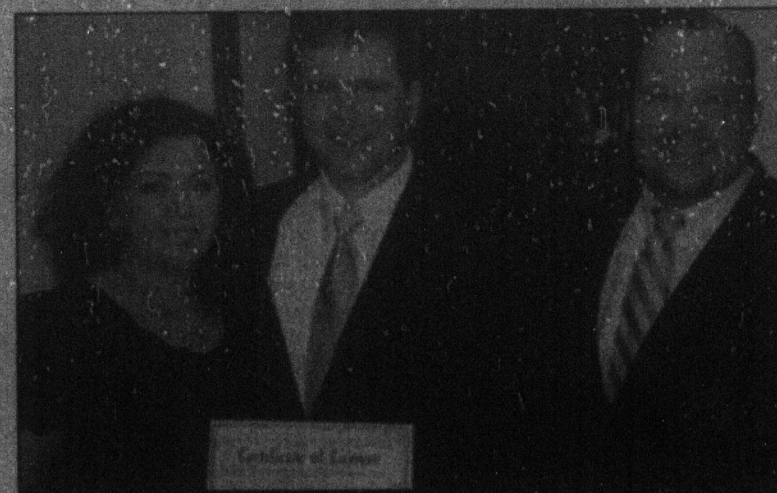
5. Carterville Church, Petal



MISSISSIPPI BAPTISTS

1. Macedonia Church, Petal, ordained Michael Palmer as a deacon Aug. 9. Shown are Brittany Palmer, Palmer (holding daughter Lexie), and pastor Mark Farris.
2. First Church, Holly Springs, held a back-to-school family night Aug. 7, featuring skating, cotton candy, hot dogs, popcorn, basketball, pool, and an inflatable slide. Shown are the participants.
3. Diamondhead Church, Diamondhead, celebrated its 30th anniversary Sept. 20. Shown are charter members Charlotte Partridge and Pearl Bouis.
4. Cross Roads Church, Pelahatchie, recently ordained Scot Huffman, Johnny Brady, and Tommy Tullos as deacons. Shown are pastor John Vaughn, Tullos, Huffman, Brady, and Jeff Walker.
5. Carterville Church, Petal, ordained Brent Thompson, Frank Culpepper, and Steven Hampton as deacons. Shown are Thompson, Culpepper, and Hampton.
6. Providence Church, Jayess, ordained Zachary Smith to the gospel ministry Aug. 9. Shown are Holly Smith, Smith, and pastor William Wall. Smith is available for pulpit supply and can be reached at (601) 320-1635.
7. New Liberty Church, Scott County, recognizes its children's and youth Bible drillers. Shown are the participants.
8. Goodwater Church, Magee, ordained Dale Herrington, David Stewart, and Billy Ray Smith as deacons Sept. 6. Shown are pastor Chris Carter, Herrington, Stewart, and Smith.
9. First Church, Verona, ordained David Keeney Sept. 13. Shown are Keeney and pastor Gary Roberson.

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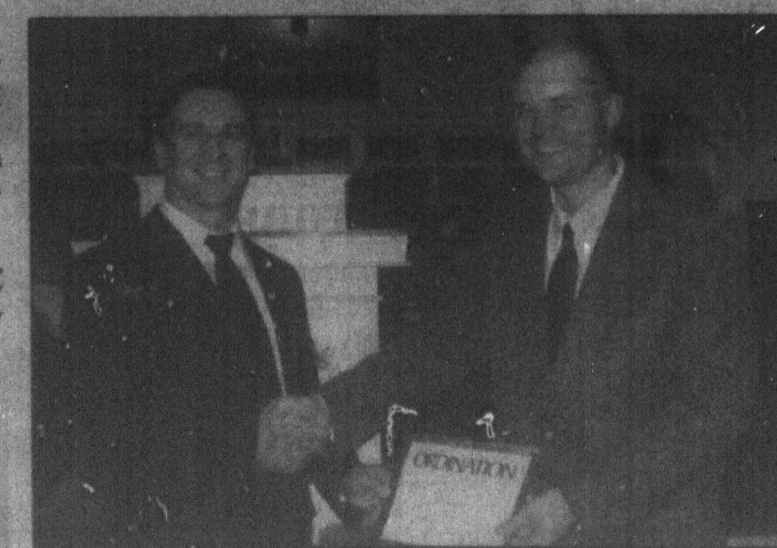
6. Providence Church, Jayess



7. New Liberty Church, Scott County



8. Goodwater Church, Magee



9. First Church, Verona

BIBL

By Ken Ar

Fast, adventure, and a big name. A hurried trip for the 50th anniversary episode of the screen action-adventure movie plot was the outcome of the young hero always the difficult.

The following from Mark's ultimate journey with his followers.

As Jesse left Bethany, he became a

E

By Ginger

"Songs study the all face. The music has comfort. Psalms do in life in fearful, lonely, and wonderful. Omnipresence is always need. All His presence personal to you and individuals. The Lord's herd; He Shepherd (v. 1)! Songs, of ship with al way, shepherd.

The news that takes the Mississippi Baptist News ten, (b) paper, of forms p ois mu will be a New to the tained i mail for no text Photogr

BIBLE STUDIES FOR LIFE

The Warrior Hero

Mark 11:12-25

Ken Anderson

Fast, hard-hitting action venture, read the movie *Warrior*. A young generation arrived to the movie theater the Saturday afternoon matinee, to watch another side of their favorite silver screen cowboy hero. This action adventure was tame indeed compared to today's movie productions. The movie was simple, repetitive, and the outcome guaranteed. But the youngsters could not miss the moral lessons; the cowboy hero always won regardless of the difficulties he faced.

The following four studies from Mark present Jesus as the intimate hero who challenges his followers to an adventurous journey with Him.

Mark 11:12-14

As Jesus and the disciples left Bethany for Jerusalem, Jesus came hungry. Seeing a fig tree

in full foliage, He sought some fruit from it, but found none. As a result Christ cursed the tree so that "No man eat fruit of thee hereafter forever..." (KJV). Interpreters have noted that Jesus used a parable here, acting out a symbolic meaning. The full-leafed tree was a symbol for Israel. The Temple in Jerusalem with its many rituals and observances looked healthy and promising, but in reality produced no fruit. Therefore, God's covenant people were an unfruitful people, useless and hypocritical. As it was then so it is now that followers of Christ are to bear spiritual fruit (John 15:5).

Mark 11:15-19

Here Christ is the warrior hero with fast and forceful action taking over and clearing out the corruption in the Temple court of the Gentiles. The court was intended to be a

Anderson

place of worship for all nations. But self-serving merchants had perverted it into a "den of thieves" (Isa. 56:7, Jer. 7:11). Mark noted three groups that replaced genuine worship with commercialism (vs. 15). The first group was sellers of doves. Doves were one of the few items that the poor could afford as a sacrifice. But the poor were being manipulated by the merchants. The second group was the money changers. It was required that the Temple tax was to be paid with a Jewish shekel. Greek pilgrims needed to exchange their Roman currency into Jewish currency. With the rate of exchange constantly changing it was easy to victimize the worshipers. Third, the court had become a commercial highway with baggage being transported back and forth. The income derived from the sale of sacrifices and taxes was high during the feast days and therefore very profitable for them. But Christ eliminated all of that "until evening," for that period

of time was the central focus in the place of worship.

Mark 11:20-25

The following morning Peter recognized the tree that Christ had cursed the previous day. It was now dead from its roots. Evidently the disciples were amazed at the sudden and dramatic result of Christ's curse. Christ never gave an explanation for the tree's fate. Rather, He taught the disciples the need for faith in prayer. Christ used a hyperbole to make His point. This was a Hebrew expression that what is impossible among men is not with God. They could not uproot a mountain with their own will, but with faith in God they could do what seemed impossible.

Verse 23

Many have known and benefited from prayer warriors. That designation is due to their strong faith and effectual prayer life. Prayer warriors voice their prayers in a confident faith that their prayers are fulfilled even before they happen. However, this verse is not a license to ask for any whim of one's imagination and expect to receive it. Praying in faith is

always a submission to the will of God (Mark 14:36b).

Verse 26

Effectual prayers are linked to a loving and forgiving heart also. This verse is a reminder of the Lord's model prayer, "and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors" (Matt. 6:12 KJV). Disciples of Christ need constant reminders that forgiveness of others is an essential ingredient in an effectual prayer life.

Insights

Lionel Watson raised these questions, "If Jesus were to cleanse your church today, where would he begin? Is the transaction of church business ever carried on with an un-Christlike spirit?" (Through Suffering and Victory, p. 49).

The Temple and the fig tree were both void of producing their appropriate fruit, and both were dead. Christians must fight to defeat distractions that prevent encountering God in worship and building their spiritual Temples.

Anderson is Transitional Pastor, Tremont First Baptist Church, Tremont.

EXPLORE THE BIBLE

When I Need Comfort

Psalm 23

Ginger M. Caughman

"Songs of Life," our Psalms today theme, comes to times we face. Times when we feel the music has stopped and we need comfort from our God. The psalms deal with all situations in life including the confused, fearful, troubled, sad, uncertain, lonely and dark times. Our wonderful, powerful, omnipresent, omnipotent God is always available for every need. All of Scripture declares His promises. We have a very personal God who cares about you and cares about me as individuals. This Psalm is personal; the Lord is not just any shepherd; He is not only the shepherd; He is my Shepherd (v. 1)! David, the Singer of songs, describes his relationship with God in a very personal way, using the imagery of a shepherd with his sheep.

We all have favorite places in the Bible for times of need. Certainly God is our refuge and strength in every time of trouble (Ps. 46). One of the universal passages people turn to is Psalm 23. Even if you have memorized the words, open your mind and spirit this week for new comfort and assurances from the Great Shepherd, our Lord Jesus Christ.

1. God Provides vv. 1-2

"Gentle Shepherd, come and lead us...help us find our way..." Gloria and Bill Gaither, English teachers in Indiana, married in the turbulent sixties. We did too. I heard the Gaithers sing in New Orleans during those early days. In a book detailing the stories and inspiration behind their songs, Gloria explained that the lovely song, "Gentle Shepherd" was written when they were beginning their parent-



Caughman

ing process. "Nothing made us more aware of our need for a shepherd than parenting the children God has given us. We, like the sheep, are sometimes so clueless." Gloria expresses herself beautifully: "The balance of affirmation and discipline, freedom and restraint, encouragement and warning is different for each child and season and generation, yet the absolutes of God's Word are necessary and trustworthy no matter how mercurial the times." ("Because He Lives", Zondervan, 1997, p. 115-116). Gloria's words are true for all of God's children, adults and youth alike, in these difficult times in our world.

2. God Comforts vv. 3-4

Jesus tells us He is our Good Shepherd (John 10). In singer Michael Card's delightful study of the Gospel of John he says, "When the Bible refers to us as sheep it is no compliment; they are not the brightest of God's creatures. A sheep will literally follow its own nose off a cliff. Before

sheep need food and water, sheep need a shepherd. We are just like that!" ("The Parable of Joy", Nelson, 1995, p. 131). But Card affirms the one thing at which sheep are experts is identifying the shepherd's voice! A great lesson for us. Know the Good Shepherd's voice!

The crowds following our Lord caused Him to feel pity because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So He taught them (Mark 6:34). The Lord is our Shepherd! We have no need! He cannot meet. Jesus, the Great Shepherd, still teaches us as we read His Word!

"Comfort, O comfort My people" declares our Great God! All of Isaiah 40 is a great favorite! George Frideric Handel put music to these and other words of comfort and strength from Scripture in magnificent music, "Messiah" (1741)! God's promise is sure: He is with us through every dark valley, even death! Jesus conquered death! "Thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ!" (v. 57 and all of 1 Cor. 15).

3. God Secures vv. 5-6

I once heard Dr. Charles Allen speak in a small church in LaPlace, Louisiana. The experienced pastor and counselor told many stories from the Bible and said he had prescribed the 23rd Psalm many times through his ministry. "The power is in thinking the thoughts. Read the twenty-third Psalm five-times a day for seven days. The power of this Psalm is that it represents a positive, hopeful, faith approach to life" (from his classic book, "God's Psychiatry," Revell, 1953).

Take comfort and security in God's provision. Psalm 23 provides a model of God's involvement in our lives. Seek a closer relationship with God.

Christian, look behind you. By God's grace (v. 6), "goodness and lovingkindness (mercy) will follow me all the days of my life and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever!" Praise Him! Alleluia!

Caughman teaches the Bible and sings in two choirs at First Church, Magee.

Guidelines for submitting news and photographs

The Baptist Record is pleased to publish news and photographs of special events that take place in cooperating churches of the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

News submitted for publication in The Baptist Record must be either (a) typewritten, (b) neatly printed on 8 1/2 by 11-inch paper, or (c) neatly printed on standardized forms provided by the newspaper. All articles must be received in writing; no articles will be accepted over the telephone.

News may be submitted electronically to the address below, and must be contained in the message segment of an e-mail form. Due to increasing virus threats, no text attachments will be accepted. Photograph attachments are permissible.

THE BAPTIST
Record

Please make articles concise. Include the who, what, when, where details of the story, along with a contact person's address and telephone number.

Photographs may be color or black and white. Instant photos and digital printouts are not reproducible. Digital photos may be used if

submitted as a JPEG file via either (a) e-mail, (b) three-and-a-half inch floppy disk, or (c) CD. Photos must be clear, sharp, and well-lighted. Cell phone photographs and other low resolution items are generally not publishable. Photographs can not be returned. Please do not attach photos with tape or staples.

All news items are subject to editing, and all photographs are subject to cropping. Photographs must depict people. No landscape, building, or object-only photographs will be printed. News items and/or photographs can be published one time only. News items and/or photographs depicting benefits and activities for secular or outside organizations will not be published. Deadline for submitting news is one week prior to requested publication date.

Articles that are not date-sensitive will be published on a space-available basis.

Submit news and photographs to The Baptist Record, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. FAX: (601) 292-3330. E-mail: baptistrecord@mbcb.org.



MISSISSIPPI BAPTISTS



3. Calvary Church, Braxton



4. Robinwood Church, Saucier



5. Neshoba Association in home care kits



6. First Church, Glendale, Hattiesburg

1. Cedar View Church, Olive Branch, is hosting a community singing Oct. 17. Dinner, 5 p.m.; music, 6 p.m., featuring Southern Image Quartet.

2. Scott County Association is having a senior adult rally at Ephesus Church Oct. 13. Registration, 9:15 a.m., with guest speaker and lunch.

3. Calvary Church, Braxton, held their AWANA recognition May 13. Shown are the children and their leaders. Bryan Shufelt, pastor.

4. Robinwood Church, Saucier, presented Down by the Creek Bank recently. Terry Upchurch, pastor. Shown are the participants.

5. Neshoba Association collected 22 in home care kits for Baptist Global Response during the month of August. Shown is Gary Keen delivering the kits to Garaywa Camp and Conference Center.

6. The Women on Mission, First Church, Glendale, Hattiesburg, packed welcome baskets for the Christian Women's Job Corps recently, with six baskets being delivered to the Petal chapter. Shown are the participants.

7. Rock Hill Church, Mt. Olive, held a baby dedication Sept. 13. Shown are the participants.

8. Gaston Church, Booneville, held an outreach event entitled Gaston Outdoors Aug. 27. Approximately 400 people attended, with 36 praying to receive Christ. David Hale, cofounder of Knight and Hale Game Calls, featured speaker. Shown are Kevin Eubank, Hale, and pastor Matt Brown.

9. Lyon Church, Lyon, recently celebrated pastor Joel Stroud's 20th anniversary at the church. Shown are Stroud, Sheri Stroud, and Jim Futral, guest speaker.

10. Lyon Church, Lyon, participated in the Baptist Global Response project in July. The church prepared 12 in-home care kits. Shown are the participants.

The Baptist Record
P.O. Box 536
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7. Rock Hill Church, Mt. Olive



8. Gaston Church, Booneville



9. Stroud recognition



10. Lyon Church, Lyon